(c) by when the sanction of funds to the Karnataka Government is expected?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A proposal for rehabilitation of trunk sewers of Bangalore submitted by the Government of Karnataka was approved for an amount of Rs. 46.27 crore in August, 2002. The project is to be implemented on cost sharing in the ratio of 70:30 between the Central and State Governments. An amount of Rs. 8 crore towards the first installment of Central share has already been released to the State Government for implementation of the project.

Species of plants and animals

†3173. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of species and sub-species of plants and wild animals in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that smuggling of body parts of wild animals is the second largest, next to smuggling of narcotic drugs, and the killings of wild animals and smuggling of their body parts is still continuing, despite existing laws and restrictions;

(c) if so, whether Government are contemplating to enact strict laws to protect the extincting wild life and plants and to stop their smuggling; and

(d) if not, in what manner protection of wild animals and plants would be ensured?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) As per available record, it is estimated that there are nearly 48,000 plants species and 81,000 animal species in the country.

(b) and (c) Illegal trade in wildlife, their parts and products is clandestine in nature and is said to be next to smuggling of Narcotic drugs. Seizure of wildlife, its products and derivatives and investigations from time to time, indicate that illegal trade continues. Government has introduced Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Bill, 2002, enhancing the penalties

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and proposing other measures for protection of wildlife. The Bill has been passed by the Rajya Sabha on 9th December, 2002.

(d) Does not arise.

Global warming

3174. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what efforts Government are making to create an eco-friendly environment in the country in light of the statement of the Prime Minister at UN Climate Change Conference contradicting the change that developing countries generate green house gas emission which are unnecessary for their economies;

(b) whether Government are mobilizing world opinion so as to motivate developed countries to make a greater contribution to check global warming; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The steps taken by the Government to create an eco-friendly environment in the country and to address greenhouse gas emissions include measures relating to energy efficiency, energy conservation, power sector reforms, renewable energy programme, fuel switching to cleaner energy, afforestation and conservation of forests, efficient utilization of coal, reduction of gas flaring, installation of heat recovery systems in oil and power sector, standardization of fuel efficient irrigation pump sets and better cultivar practices.

India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which seeks to address climate change in accordance with principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. The Convention notes that the largest share of historical and current global emissions of greenhouse gases has originated in developed countries, that per capita emissions in developing countries are still relatively low and that the share of global emissions originating in developing countries will grow to meet their social and development needs.

(b) and (c) India is actively participating in various multilateral forums